



# Irving Recreation Center Summer Day Camp Meet the Staff

Lincoln Parks and Recreation

Summer 2011



## **Alexa, Camp Character**

Alexa is a senior at UNL majoring in Elementary Education. She's worked with Kindergarteners at Campbell Elementary and second through fifth graders at Saratoga Elementary. She loves working with kids and enjoys fun outdoor activities. She's looking forward to this summer and to having lots of fun with campers!



## **Cody, Camp Character**

Cody graduated from Deshler High School and is currently a senior K-12 Health/Physical Education major at Peru St. College. He is also an assistant boys basketball coach at Falls City High School. In his free time, he enjoys participating in almost every type of sport, such as basketball, baseball, football and golf, and hanging out with friends and family. He also enjoys going to the races on Friday and Saturday nights.



## **Jeff, Camp Character**

Jeff is currently pursuing a degree in Elementary Education at UNL. He has two amazing dogs that he loves and enjoys doing anything recreational outside. The reason for the long and crazy head of hair is that he is growing it out to donate to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to low income children suffering from long-term medical hair loss. He hopes that by the end of camp it will be long enough to shave off. Jeff's motto is "Why Be Normal When You Can Be Yourself?"



## **Lacey, Camp Character Director**

Lacey is a 1st grade teacher at Beattie Elementary. She started with Parks and Rec. in 2002 with before and after school programs. This is her 9th summer of day camp and 8th at Irving! When she is not working, she enjoys playing softball and sand volleyball, working out at boot camp, and relaxing at her family's cabin with friends and family. She is excited for camp to start and looks forward to working with you and your children!



## **Brittany, Camp Energy**

Brittany, originally from Las Vegas, is twenty-two years old and a senior middle school art education major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her hobbies include traveling across the country and going to concerts.



## **Ellie, Camp Energy**

This is Ellie's third summer at Irving and second summer with Day Camp. She just finished her sophomore year at the University of Dallas where she is studying math and becoming certified to teach high school. Ellie enjoys singing, playing cards, and trying new things. She is extremely excited for Camp Energy and looking forward to having a blast with all the campers!



## **Kara, Camp Energy**

Happy Summer! Some of you already know Kara from the work she does for the rec. center as our Lead Supervisor. She has worked for Lincoln Parks and Recreation for 5 years and is excited to be doing Day Camp again! Kara has an Associate Degree in Human Services and is married with two kids. Her daughter is a kindergartner and will be joining Camp Character this summer. She looks forward to a FUN filled summer and getting to know you and your family!

**Marcus, Camp Energy Director**

Marcus is 22 years old and a senior at the University of Nebraska where he is majoring in broadcast journalism. This is his fourth summer at Irving Day Camp and his first summer as Director of Camp Energy. Marcus enjoys being outside, playing sports, and Hip Hop and break dance. He's very excited to get camp under way, to meet our new participants, and to reunite with all those who have been to camp before.

**Brett, Camp Challenge Director**

Brett is a senior at UNL with a major in Business Management. This will be his third year at summer day camp, and first year as Camp Director. He enjoys any and all kinds of team sports, although his favorite sport is soccer. He also really enjoys outdoor activities like fishing, hiking, and swimming and is looking forward to another fantastic summer at day camp!

**Laken, Camp Challenge**

This is Laken's first year at summer camp. She just graduated from UNL this past May with a degree in Secondary Education with an endorsement in social sciences. Laken loves doing anything outside, running, swimming, biking and hiking. She also enjoys reading and watching movies and being with family and friends. She is very excited for a summer full of fun and sun!

**Patrick, Camp Challenge**

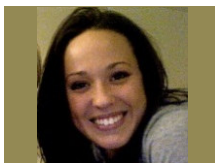
This is Patrick's first summer at Irving Recreation Center, and he is pumped to begin camp. He was born and raised in Omaha and is currently a junior attending Hastings College. Patrick is a Secondary Language Art Education major who enjoys reading, biking, learning new things, and watching movies. He knows it's going to be a great first summer day camp experience for him and plans to make it the best experience for campers, too. He thinks we're all going to have a lot of fun!

**Shen, Camp Challenge**

Shen likes children, is fond of summer, and wants to have fun. So here he is! He has a Master's Degree in Chemistry from Lanzhou University in China and is a second year graduate student in the Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies at UNL. Shen will be working at Irving this summer as a volunteer and as a facilitator and researcher of *Health Rocks®*, a program dedicated to protecting youth from risks of substance use (tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs).

**Zach, Camp Challenge**

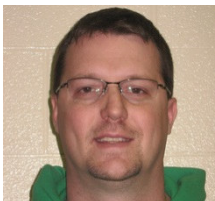
Zach is a senior graphic design student at Union College and is employed as a para-educator with Lincoln Public Schools. He really enjoys communication arts, photography, and logo design. Zach is a music FANATIC. He has composed and played piano and percussion since he was 10 and recently started playing the guitar. Zach is also crazy about sports; all types of sports, from basketball to skateboarding. He recently completed his college basketball career as a point guard and shooting guard for both the NCCAA and the NAIA.

**Beth, AmeriCorps Member**

Beth is 22 years old and from Bancroft, Nebraska. She is attending UNL and majors in Special Education. Beth has a cat named Edgar and her favorite color is yellow. She just recently began a term of AmeriCorps service at Irving Recreation Center, so this will be her first year of Summer Day Camp! One of Beth's primary responsibilities will be supervising our Summer Youth Volunteer Program.

**Erica, AmeriCorps Member**

Erica is originally from San Diego, CA and is a 2nd year AmeriCorps member at Irving Rec. Center. She signed up for service at Irving to make a difference in the lives of youth. Erica is enrolled in the Human Service program at Southeast Community College. She's not yet sure where her career path might lead, but she does know it will involve working with kids to help them be the best they can be.

**Dan, Center Director**

Dan is responsible for all aspects of Irving Recreation Center operations. He holds a Master's Degree in Child, Youth and Family Studies, an undergraduate degree in Education, and is a National Recreation and Park Association Certified Park and Recreation Professional. Dan lives in an old house with his family: Molly (wife), Cooper (German Shepherd-Akita), Bessie (Black Lab), and Jasmine (crazy cat). Be assured he is committed to ensuring a safe, fun, and developmentally beneficial experience for your child.